

Islands in the Stream Expedition

2001 Field Season

Dive Summary

Lophelia Bank Pt1

9/24/2001

North Carolina Shelf: The Point, Steeples and Lophelia Banks, Islands in the Stream

Overview of Dive JSL2-4365 at Lophelia Bank Pt1

Phil Santos piloted this dive with aft technician Ben Chiong at the site known as Lophelia Bank Pt1 (34.18691 / -74.10228) on 9/24/2001 starting at 8:04:58. Total dive time was 3:50:02 and the maximum depth reached was 1590 feet. Scientific observers were Ken Sulak and John McDonough. (All times EST)

Dive Objectives. Objectives accomplished during the dive include:

Exploration/Recon

Fish Assessment

Benthic Assessment

Data Collected. Types of data collected during the dive include:

Stills 80

CTD/Data Sonde

Fish

Digital Video Tapes 1

Digital Video Tapes 1

Digital Video Tapes 1

Living Marine Resources Abundance

few 2-10; many 11 - 100; abundant >100

Pelagic Fish	Few	Other Benthic	Single
Bottom Fish	Abundant	Lophelia coral	
Crustacean	Many		
Mollusk	Few		
Echinoderm	Few		

Observations and Comments on Living Marine Resources:

General Comments

None.

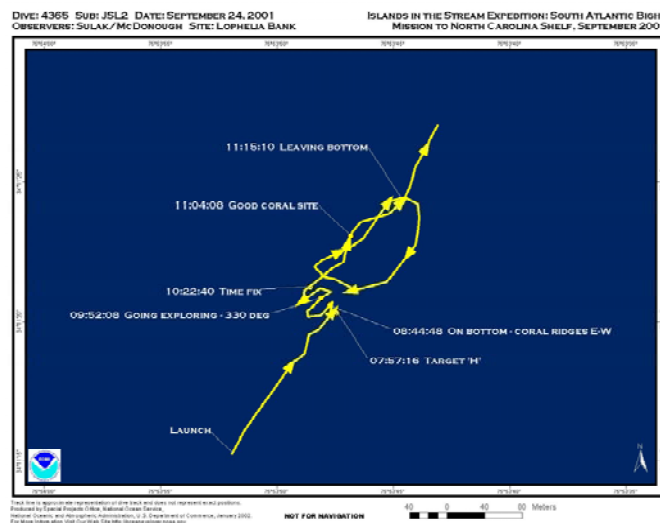


Prepared by :
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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Dive Track Description

Made bottom on rubble substrate-proceeded toward sonar target ridge likely to have live coral. Encountered scattered small coral bushes during transit to target and collected some fish.

At target ridge found a series of parallel ridges and valleys with 2-5m relief. Small coral bushes(1-2ft. tall) carpeted on side and top of ridge. Backside slop and valleys had rubble with scattered coral heads. Bottomed sub at 'fix 3' top of ridge: Videoded and rotenoned-collected several fish. Near end of dive transited along ridge to a plateau crest population by 4-6' tall dense Lophelia. Many fishes and inverts(crabs, brittle stars, urchin, slit shell) associated with dense coral matrix. Super site at end of dive. Relief of features observed during the dive ranged from to 30 meters.



Observed Human Activities

None Observed.

Observed Human Impacts

None Observed.

Overall Dive Site Ratings

1 = low; 10 = high

Uniqueness	8
Health	10
Disturbance	0
Biodiversity	7

Observed Fish Abundance

few 2-10; many 11 - 100; abundant >100

Beryx splendens	Single
Scorpaena sp.	Few
Laemonema melanurum	Many
Laemonema goodebenorum	Many
Scyliorhinus petifor	Many
Physiculus fulvus	Single
ILyophis brunneus	Single
Myxine glutinosa	Many
Hoplustethus mediterraneus	Many
Polyipnus asteroidus	Few